



# Yosemite Guide

Where to Go and What to Do in Yosemite National Park

October 10, 2012 - December 11, 2012



Hantavirus information inside. See page 8.

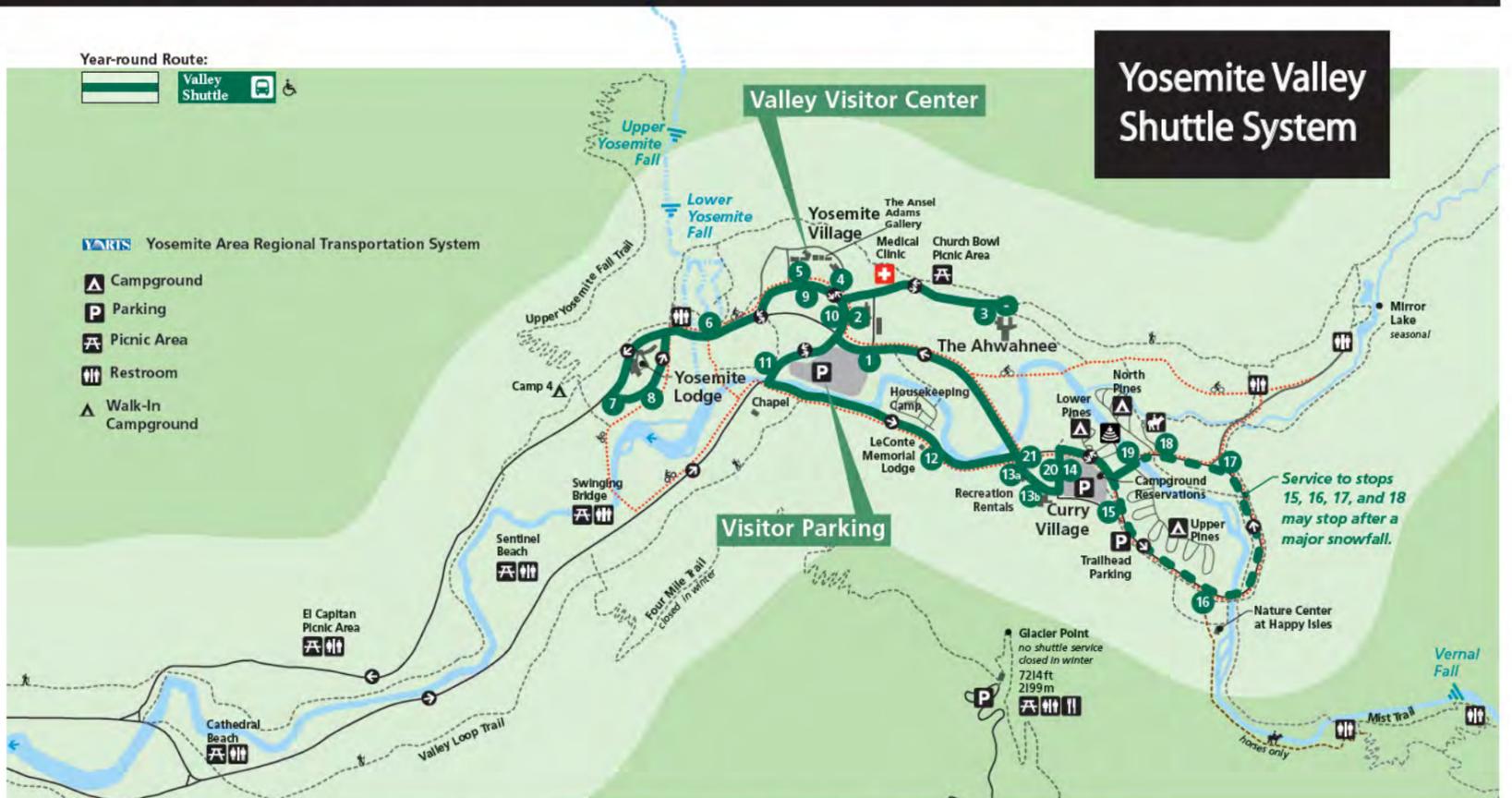
Volume 37, Issue 8

Experience Your America Yosemite National Park

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Yosemite Guide October 10, 2012 - December 11, 2012

US Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
PO Box 577  
Yosemite, CA 95389



Shuttles run daily every 10-20 minutes depending on the time of day. The Valley Visitor Shuttle operates from 7:00am - 10:00pm and serves stops in numerical order.

Stop #	Location	Stop #	Location	Stop #	Location
1	Visitor Parking	8	YARIS Yosemite Lodge	16	Happy Isles
2	10 Yosemite Village	11	Sentinel Bridge	17	Mirror Lake Trailhead
3	YARIS The Ahwahnee	12	LeConte / Housekeeping Camp	18	Stable
4	Degnan's Deli	13a	21 Recreation Rentals	19	Pines Campgrounds
5	9 YARIS Valley Visitor Center	13b	YARIS Curry Village		
6	Lower Yosemite Fall	14	20 Curry Village Parking		
7	Camp 4	15	Upper Pines Campground		

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# Seasonal Highlights

Keep this Guide with you to get the most out of your visit

**W**hat do you want to do with your special time in Yosemite? The choice is yours. Here are some popular activities for a day in Yosemite National Park.

## Take the Bus!

Free shuttles, including some environmentally-friendly electric/diesel hybrids, are available in Yosemite Valley year-round. Park your car and let an expert drive you to some of the most scenic and historic points in the park. Not only will you be doing your part to cut down on traffic congestion and vehicle pollutants, you'll also have both hands free for that perfect shot of Half Dome.

## Explore a Sequoia Grove

Meet the most massive living trees on earth as you explore a sequoia grove. Yosemite is home to three groves—each within walking distance of a road. Skis or snowshoes are recommended if the trail is snow covered. (See map on page 2 and info on page 7.)

## Halloween Cemetery Tour

October 27th and 31st only. Join us for a walking tour of the Yosemite Cemetery, meet in front of the Valley Visitor Center with a flashlight at 7:30pm.

## Enjoy the Fall Colors!

Yosemite Valley is a great place to see spectacular fall colors. While each year is different, the end of October through mid-November are often good times to watch the seasons change around you. Trees like dogwood, maple, oak, and alder and plants like Indian hemp and goldenrod help give the Valley a golden glow during the fall. Ask at a Visitor Center to find out where the best seasonal show is happening during your visit!

## Visit the Yosemite Museum

Learn about Yosemite Indians by exploring a museum collection that includes remarkable woven baskets and traditional dress. Tour the outdoor Indian Village or talk with an Indian cultural demonstrator. The Yosemite Museum is located in Yosemite Village at shuttle stops #5 and #9. (See page 6.)

## Stroll with a Ranger

Learn about park wonders on a ranger-guided walk. Programs are offered daily in Yosemite Valley focusing on bears, geology, trees, and other topics. (See page 5 for times and places.)



Autumn reflection, Valley View. NPS Photo

**Whether you're looking for a cold-weather adventure, a warm fireplace, or a little of both, Yosemite is a magical place in fall and winter!**

**Go Bike Riding or Ice Skating** Curry Village Bike Rental stand is open from 9:00am - 5:00 pm closes for the season on October 21st. Yosemite Lodge Bike Stand is open from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm after Nov 4 open 10:00-4:00 closes for the season on November 18th, weather and conditions permitting Call 209/372-8319 for more information on bike rentals. The skating rink opens for the season on November 19th, weather conditions permitting.

## Take a Twilight Stroll with a Naturalist

On selected early evenings, take a one-hour leisurely walk with a naturalist through the meadows and forests surrounding The Ahwahnee Hotel. Enjoy vivid alpenglow views, glimpses of passing wildlife, and stories of Yosemite's deep human history during this peaceful way to get up-close and personal with Yosemite. Check the Scheduled Events in Yosemite Valley on page 5 of this newspaper or local listings for exact meeting times and locations.

## Tour The Ahwahnee...

Step back to an earlier era of history as you explore the National Historic Landmark that opened in 1927. Notable for its architecture and artful décor, the hotel provides a cozy atmosphere to relax and enjoy a warm drink in. ("Food & Beverage," page 7.)

## ... or Curl Up in Front of a Fireplace!

The Ahwahnee has three oversized fireplaces that match the proportion of the structure and that have always provided heat during the year's cooler months. Bring a book, a warm drink, or at least a pair of frosty hands for a good warm-up in front of the flames.

## Take a Photography Class

Learn how to best capture the landscape of Yosemite by joining a photography expert from The Ansel Adams Gallery. Several classes are offered each week. Some have fees, some are free. Learn more and sign up at the Ansel Adams Gallery in Yosemite Village. Shuttle stops #5 and #9. (See pages 5 and 6.)

## Winter Weather and Driving in Yosemite

The Tioga, Glacier Point, and Mariposa Grove Roads are closed each year from after the first significant snowfall to about late May or early June. Other roads are generally plowed and maintained, but can close or present delays during storm periods. Motorists are advised to always carry chains and check weather and road conditions before travel. Icy and wet roadways can exist throughout the park! To check conditions, call 209/372-0200 for roads inside the park and 800/427-7623 or visit [www.dot.ca.gov](http://www.dot.ca.gov) for highways connecting to Yosemite.

## Hike to Mirror Meadow

Situated at the base of Half Dome, the site of Mirror Lake frames reflections of Yosemite's most iconic cliff. (The lake itself is dry until the first significant precipitation of the season, however.) The quiet trail is gentle and follows Tenaya Creek as it winds its way through the eastern Valley. The trail starts at shuttle stop #17. (Please note, the back of the Mirror Lake Loop is currently closed due to rockslide. See Valley map on the back of this Guide.)

## Yosemite Theater: Yosemite Legends Come to Life

Exciting Yosemite stories come to life through performances by nationally recognized performers. Ron Kauk appears in person to present his compelling, award-winning film, "Return to Balance: A Climber's Journey". Park Ranger John Dill shares true stories of daring Yosemite rescues. (See page 5 for shows and starting times.)

## Gateway Expressions

Student Art and Poetry Contest is open to all students, grades K-12, attending a school or youth program associated with the gateway community school districts of Yosemite National Park. Selected student artwork and poetry will be featured in an exhibit at The Ansel Adams Gallery November 16 and 17. Reception at The Ansel Adams Gallery: Saturday, November 17, 2012 from 12-3pm. For more information please call 209-375-9490.

## What's Inside

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# Discover Yosemite

Let your curiosity guide you to new places

## Entrance Fees

Reservations are NOT required to enter Yosemite. The park is open year-round, 24 hours/day.

**Vehicle \$20**  
Valid for 7 days

**Individual \$10**  
In a bus, on foot, bicycle, motorcycle, or horse. Valid for 7 days.

**Yosemite Pass \$40**  
Valid for one year in Yosemite.

**Interagency Annual Pass \$80**  
Valid for one year at all federal recreation sites.

**Interagency Senior Pass \$10 (Lifetime)** For U.S. citizens or permanent residents 62 and over.

**Interagency Access Pass (Free) (Lifetime)** For permanently disabled U.S. citizens or permanent residents.

**Interagency Military Pass (Free) (Lifetime)** For active duty U.S. military and dependants

## Reservations

**Campground Reservations**  
877/444-6777  
www.recreation.gov

**Lodging Reservations**  
801/559-5000  
www.yosemitepark.com

## Regional Info

**Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS)**  
www.yarts.com

**Highway 120 West**  
Yosemite Chamber of Commerce  
800/449-9120 or 209/962-0429

**Tuolumne County Visitors Bureau**  
800/446-1333  
www.tcvb.com

**Highway 41**  
Yosemite Sierra Visitors Bureau  
559/683-4636  
www.yosemitethisyear.com

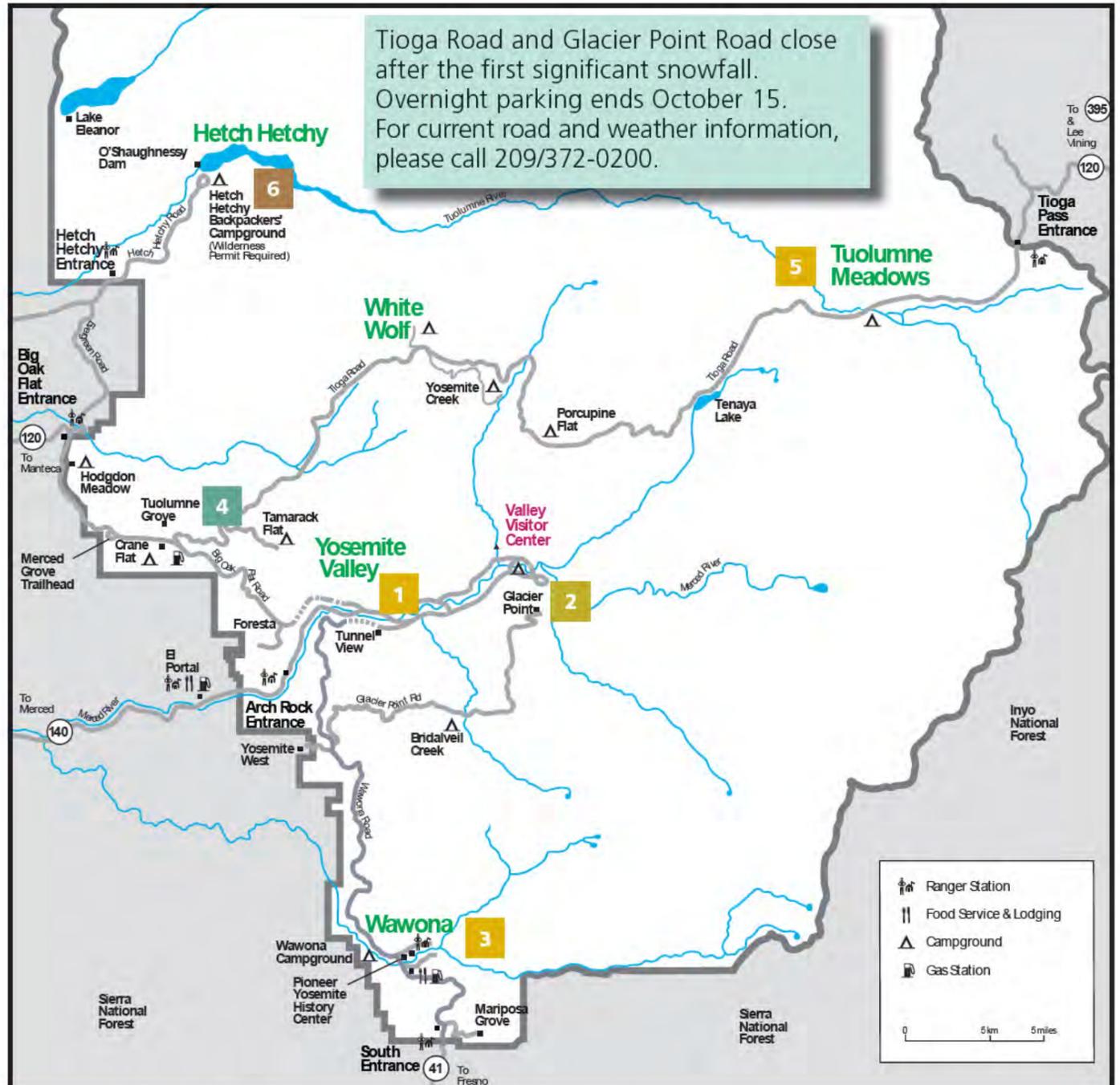
**Highway 132/49**  
Coulterville Visitor Center  
209/878-3074

**Highway 140/49**  
Mariposa County Visitor Center  
866/425-3366 or 209/966-7081

**Yosemite Mariposa County Tourism Bureau**  
209/742-4567  
www.homeofyosemite.com

**Highway 120 East**  
Lee Vining Chamber of Commerce and Mono Lake Visitor Center, 760/647-6629  
www.leevining.com

**Calif. Welcome Center, Merced**  
800/446-5353 or 209/724-8104  
www.yosemite-gateway.org



## Yosemite Valley

**1** Yosemite Valley is world-famous for its impressive waterfalls, cliffs, and unusual rock formations. It is open year round and may be reached via Highway 41 from Fresno, Highway 140 from Merced, Highway 120 west from Manteca, and via the Tioga Road (Highway 120 East) from Lee Vining. The Valley is known for massive cliff faces like El Capitan and Half Dome, its plunging waterfalls including the tallest in North America, and its attractive meadows. While Yosemite Falls will be dry until rain and snow recharge it, a moderate hike will take you to Vernal and Nevada Falls. Yosemite's meadows are great places to see wildlife and to photograph fall colors. Admire El Capitan, the massive granite monolith that stands 3,593 feet from base to summit. Whether you explore the Valley by foot, bike, car, or with a tour, the scenery will leave you breathless and eager to see what's around the next corner.



Granite, the Merced River, trees, and meadows compose the Valley's unique blend. Photo by Christine White Loberg

## Glacier Point Road

**2** Glacier Point, an overlook with a commanding view of Yosemite Valley, Half Dome, and the Yosemite's high country, is located 30 miles (a one-hour drive) from Yosemite Valley. **The road stays open as weather permits, although overnight parking along it ends on Oct. 15.** When snow covers the road and conditions permit, a system of cross-country ski tracks is maintained on it. From Yosemite Valley, take the Wawona Road (Highway 41), then turn left onto Glacier Point Road. At Glacier Point, a short, paved, and wheelchair-accessible trail takes you to an exhilarating, some might say unnerving, view 3,214 feet down to Yosemite Valley.

## Wawona and Mariposa Grove

**3** The Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is located 36 miles (1 ¼ hours) south of Yosemite Valley via the Wawona Road (Highway 41), two miles from the park's South Entrance station. When weather permits, the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is a short drive from Wawona. Help reduce congestion by taking the free shuttle from the Wawona Store, available weekends from 9am to 6pm as weather permits. The road to the grove is closed to vehicles after the first big snowstorm, making it a peaceful hike or snowshoe for winter adventurers. See page 7 for Mariposa Grove hiking details. The nearby Pioneer Yosemite History Center in Wawona is a collection of historic buildings associated with people and events that shaped the national park idea in Yosemite.

## Crane Flat and Tuolumne Grove

**4** Crane Flat is located 16 miles from Yosemite Valley at the junction of the Big Oak Flat and Tioga Roads. A number of hikes through pleasant meadows are available—when snow covers the ground these turn into delightful ski and snowshoe tracks. To see giant sequoias, park at the Tuolumne Grove parking area located on the Tioga Road, and walk one steep mile down to the Tuolumne Grove of Giant Sequoias. Or, park at Merced Grove trailhead and walk two steep miles down to this small grove. These groves north of Yosemite Valley are smaller than the more-famous Mariposa Grove, but are quieter and off-limits to vehicles. Remember that the walk down is easier than the walk back up.

## Tuolumne Meadows and Tioga Road

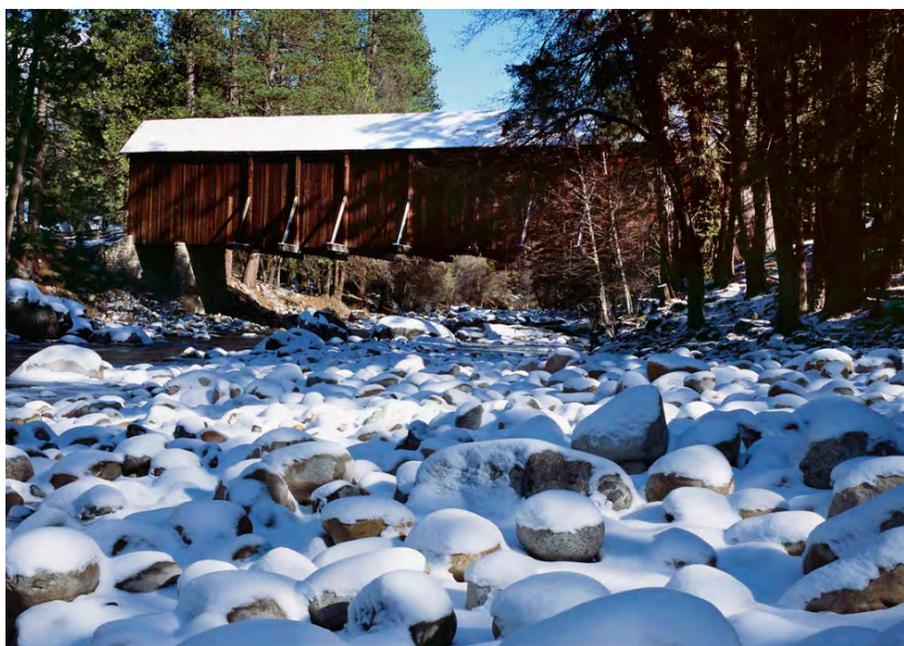
**5** The Tioga Road offers a 39-mile scenic drive past forests, meadows, lakes, and granite domes. **The road closes after the first big snowfall, and overnight parking ends on October 15.** The road's elevation ranges from 6,200 to just under 10,000 feet. Tuolumne Meadows embodies the high-country of the Sierra Nevada. The Wild and Scenic Tuolumne River winds through broad sub-alpine meadows surrounded by granite domes and peaks. It is the jumping off place for countless hikes, whether you venture out for a day or a week. In winter, Tuolumne Meadows is often reached by skiers via the Snow Creek Trail from the Mirror Lake trailhead, a short distance east of Yosemite Valley.

## Hetch Hetchy

**6** Hetch Hetchy Reservoir, a source of drinking water and hydroelectric power for the City of San Francisco, is home to spectacular scenery and the starting point for many wilderness trails. The area's low elevation makes it a good place to hike in autumn and winter. Hetch Hetchy Reservoir is located 40 miles from Yosemite Valley via Highway 120 and Evergreen and Hetch Hetchy Roads. Hetch Hetchy Road is open limited hours: 8 am to 7 pm through Oct. 31; then 8 am to 5 pm through March 31. The road is accessible via the Big Oak Flat Road and Evergreen Road and is a 1 hour and 15 minute drive from Yosemite Valley. Trailers, vehicles over 25 feet long, and RVs and other vehicles over 8 feet wide are not allowed on the narrow, winding Hetch Hetchy Road.



The view from Washburn Point. Photo by Ken Watson



Snow at Wawona's covered bridge. Photo by Christine White Loberg



Tuolumne Meadows deep freeze. Photo by Wendy Malone



Hetch Hetchy Reservoir. NPS photo by Erik Skindrud

# Yosemite Valley

Spectacular vistas in the heart of the park



Upper Yosemite Fall in Winter, NPS Photo

## The Incomparable Yosemite Valley

Yosemite Valley embraces one of the world's most outstanding concentrations of waterfalls, granite walls, meadows, wildflowers, and trees. The Valley also harbors a rich collection of human stories, from American Indian lore to the birth of the National Park movement.

### Yosemite Valley

An unlimited array of possibilities await you in Yosemite Valley. Most involve sightseeing and learning about the scenery before you. See pages 5-6 for more information on program topics and visitor services available.

The base of **Lower Yosemite Fall** is an easy walk from shuttle stop #6. (Both Upper and Lower Yosemite Falls will be dry until rain and snow return.) This hike features educational exhibits and a picnic area, and is accessible to the mobility impaired. Although Yosemite Falls dries up by the end of the summer, **Bridalveil Fall** is a year-round waterfall that you can visit by car on your way into or out of the Valley. Winds swirling about the cliff lift and blow the falling water in a delicate free-fall.

**El Capitan**, a massive granite monolith, stands 3,593 feet from base to summit. From spring to fall, climbers come from all over the globe to scale El Capitan. *Note: Please park on the paved road shoulder next to El Capitan Meadow. Delicate meadows are easily damaged by trampling, so please stay on footpaths.*

**Half Dome**, Yosemite's most distinctive monument, dominates most views in Yosemite Valley. Forces of uplift, erosion from rivers and glaciers, and rockfall all shaped this famous feature into what we see today. Cook's Meadow, Sentinel Bridge, Tunnel View, Glacier Point, and Olmsted Point are just a few locations with stunning views of Half Dome.

**Happy Isles** is a place to see dramatic natural processes at work. It is easily reached by shuttle at stop #16. Cross the footbridges onto the Isles or wander through outdoor exhibits detailing Yosemite's geologic story.

*Shuttle buses may not travel to stop #16 when the road is snow-covered or icy.*

**Winter sports** get underway in November and December. Badger Pass Ski Area is tentatively scheduled to open on December 14. The ice rink at Curry Village is scheduled to open on Nov. 16, conditions permitting. To learn more: 209/372-8341.

**Tunnel View**, along Wawona Road (Hwy 41) provides a classic view of Yosemite Valley, including El Capitan, Half Dome, Sentinel Rock, Cathedral

Rocks, and Bridalveil Fall. It is particularly spectacular at sunset or after the clearing of a storm.

**Visit the Yosemite Valley Stables** for a trail ride. Stable open as weather permits; closes for the season on November 4.

**To experience the Valley on foot**, stop by a visitor center for a trail map and the most current trail conditions, or see page 9 for a list of popular Valley day hikes.

**To experience the Valley by bike**, bring or rent a bike. Curry Village Bike Rental stand is open from 9:00am - 5:00 pm closes for the season on October 21st. Yosemite Lodge Bike Stand is open from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm after Nov 4 open 10:00-4:00 closes for the season on



November 18th, weather and conditions permitting Call 209/372-8319 for more information on bike rentals.

**Weather permitting, several motor coach sightseeing tours are available in Yosemite.** To experience the Valley with a guide, take the Valley Floor Tour. This 2-hour tour departs several times daily from Yosemite Lodge.

The Glacier Point Tour is a four-hour round trip from Yosemite Valley to Glacier Point, which departs daily from Yosemite Lodge. The Glacier Point Tour also offers a one-way ticket for adventurers to hike back down to Yosemite Valley.

The Grand Tour is an eight-hour combination of Big Trees and Glacier Point tours and departs daily from Yosemite Lodge.

**Both tours end when snow closes Glacier Point Road.**

Call 209/372-1240 for reservations or inquire at tour/transportation desks at the Yosemite Lodge, open 7:30am to 5pm.

# Events and Programs

Where to go and what to do

	YOSEMITE VALLEY AND BADGER PASS	WAWONA
Sunday	<p>10:00am <b>JUNIOR RANGER TALK</b> 15 min. talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿</p> <p>2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk - Bears</b> 1 1/2hrs. shuttle stop #6 (NPS) ♿</p> <p>7:30pm <b>Evening Program</b> 1 hr. Check local listings for venue and topic, Yosemite Lodge at the Falls (DNC) ♿</p>	
Monday	<p>9:00am <b>Camera Walk</b> 1 1/2 hours. Sign up in advance at The Ansel Adams Gallery and meet at the Ahwahnee Hotel (TAAG)</p> <p>12:30pm <b>"Using your Digital Camera" Class</b> 4hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery \$ (TAAG)</p> <p>1:30pm <b>BEGINNER'S ART</b> (October 15, 22, 29 only) 2hrs (min age 8) Yosemite Art Center (YC) \$</p> <p>2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk - Yosemite's First People</b> 1 1/2 hrs. Front of Yosemite Museum (NPS) ♿</p> <p>7:30pm <b>Ranger Evening Program</b> - 1hr. Check local listings for venue and topic. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>8:30pm <b>NIGHT PROWL</b> (October only) 1 1/2 hrs. Explore Yosemite at night! Tickets/info at any tour desk (DNC) \$ ♿</p>	
Tuesday	<p>9:00am <b>Camera Walk</b> 1 1/2 hours. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG)</p> <p>10:00am <b>Art Workshop</b> (October 16, 23, 30, Nov. 6 only) 4hrs Yosemite Art Center For more information see page 6 (YC) \$</p> <p>12:00pm <b>Yosemite Forum</b> (October 17 only) 1 hr. "Smoke and Health". Valley Visitor Center Auditorium (NPS)</p> <p>12:00pm <b>Yosemite Forum</b> (November 13 only) 1 hr. "American Indians of the Yosemite Region" Valley Visitor Center Auditorium (NPS)</p> <p>12:30pm <b>"In the Footsteps of Ansel Adams" Class</b> 4hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery \$ (TAAG)</p> <p>2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk - Geology</b> 1 1/2 hrs. Front of Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿</p> <p>7:00pm <b>Yosemite Theater LIVE: "Search &amp; Rescue in Yosemite"</b> with veteran ranger John Dill. 1 1/2 hrs. Tickets can be purchased in advance at the Valley Visitor Center or any tour desk. Valley Visitor Center Theater (YC) \$ (Final show October 30)</p> <p>7:30pm <b>Evening Program</b> 1 hr. Check local listings for venue and topic, Yosemite Lodge at the Falls (DNC) ♿</p>	<p>5:30pm <b>Vintage Music of Yosemite</b> 4 hrs. Live music and historical programs with pianist/singer Tom Bopp, programs are available by request, usually given at 8:30pm, drop by the piano early in the evening &amp; ask Tom for details, Wawona Hotel Lounge (DNC) ♿</p>
Wednesday	<p>10:00am <b>Art Workshop</b> (October 17, 24, 31, Nov.7 only) 4hrs Yosemite Art Center For more information see page 6 (YC) \$</p> <p>2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk - Yosemite's Legacy</b> 1 1/2 hrs. Front of Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿</p> <p>2:00pm <b>FIRESIDE STORYTELLING FOR ALL AGES</b> (Nov 21 only) 1 hr, The Mountain Room Lounge Bar (DNC) ♿</p> <p>4:00pm <b>Naturalist Stroll</b> (November and December only) 1 hr. See local listings for title, The Ahwahnee back lawn. (DNC)</p> <p>4:30pm <b>Naturalist Stroll</b> (Oct only) 1 hr. See local listings for title, The Ahwahnee back lawn. (DNC)</p> <p>7:00pm <b>Yosemite Theater LIVE: "The Spirit of John Muir"</b> performed by Lee Stetson. 1 1/2 hrs. Tickets can be purchased in advance at the Valley Visitor Center or any tour desk. Valley Visitor Center Theater (YC) \$ (October 10 only)</p> <p>7:30pm <b>Halloween Cemetery Tour</b> (Oct 31 only) 1 1/2 hr. walking tour of the Yosemite Cemetery, meet in front of the Valley Visitor Center with a flashlight (DNC) ♿</p> <p>7:30pm <b>Ranger Evening Program</b> - 1hr. Check local listings for venue and topic. (NPS) ♿</p>	<p>5:30pm <b>Vintage Music of Yosemite</b> 4 hrs. Live music and historical programs with pianist/singer Tom Bopp, programs are available by request, usually given at 8:30pm, drop by the piano early in the evening &amp; ask Tom for details, Wawona Hotel Lounge (DNC) ♿</p>
Thursday	<p>9:00am <b>Camera Walk</b> 1 1/2 hours. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG).</p> <p>10:00am <b>Art Workshop</b> (October 18, 25, Nov.1, 8 only) 4hrs Yosemite Art Center For more information see page 6 (YC) \$</p> <p>12:30pm <b>"Using your Digital Camera" Class</b> 4hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery \$ (TAAG)</p> <p>2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk - Trees</b> 1 1/2 hrs. The Ahwahnee shuttle stop #3 (NPS)</p> <p>7:00pm <b>Yosemite Theater LIVE: "Conversation with a Tramp: an Evening with John Muir"</b> performed by Lee Stetson. 1 1/2 hrs. Tickets can be purchased in advance at the Valley Visitor Center or any tour desk. Valley Visitor Center Theater (YC) \$ (October 11 only)</p> <p>7:30pm <b>Evening Program</b> 1 hr. Check local listings for venue and topic, Yosemite Lodge at the Falls (DNC) ♿</p> <p>8:00pm <b>FIRESIDE STORYTELLING FOR ALL AGES</b> (through Nov. 8) 1 hr, The Ahwahnee Great Lounge Fireplace (DNC) ♿</p>	<p>5:30pm <b>Vintage Music of Yosemite</b> 4 hrs. Live music and historical programs with pianist/singer Tom Bopp, programs are available by request, usually given at 8:30pm, drop by the piano early in the evening &amp; ask Tom for details, Wawona Hotel Lounge (DNC) ♿</p>
Friday	<p>10:00am <b>Art Workshop</b> (October 19, 26, Nov.2, 9 only) 4hrs Yosemite Art Center For more information see page 6 (YC) \$</p> <p>2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk - Wild About Wildlife</b> 1 1/2 hrs. Front of Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿</p> <p>7:00pm <b>Yosemite Theater LIVE: Return to Balance: A Climber's Journey</b> followed by discussion with climber Ron Kauk, featured in the film. 1 1/2 hrs. Tickets can be purchased in advance at the Valley Visitor Center or any tour desk. Valley Visitor Center Theater (YC) \$ (Final show November 2)</p> <p>7:30pm <b>Film: Ansel Adams</b> 1hrs. Check Local listings for venue (TAAG)</p>	<p>5:30pm <b>Vintage Music of Yosemite</b> 4 hrs. Live music and historical programs with pianist/singer Tom Bopp, programs are available by request, usually given at 8:30pm, drop by the piano early in the evening &amp; ask Tom for details, Wawona Hotel Lounge (DNC) ♿</p>
Saturday	<p>9:00am <b>Camera Walk</b> 1 1/2 hours. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG).</p> <p>9:00am <b>WEE WILD ONES</b> (except Oct 27 &amp; Nov 17) 45 min. Stories and activities for ages 3-6, The Ahwahnee Great Lounge Fireplace (DNC) ♿</p> <p>10:00am <b>JUNIOR RANGER TALK</b> 15 min. talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿</p> <p>10:00am <b>Art Workshop</b> 4hrs (October 20, 27, Nov.3, 10 only) Yosemite Art Center For more information see page 6 (YC) \$</p> <p>12:30pm <b>"In the Footsteps of Ansel Adams" Class</b> 4hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery \$ (TAAG).</p> <p>2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk - Merced Meanders</b> 1 1/2 hrs. shuttle stop #6 (NPS) ♿</p> <p>3:00pm <b>Fine Print Tour</b> 1 hr. Very limited space. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery.</p> <p>7:00pm <b>Yosemite Theater LIVE: Return to Balance: A Climber's Journey</b> followed by discussion with climber Ron Kauk, featured in the film. 1 1/2 hrs. Tickets can be purchased in advance at the Valley Visitor Center or any tour desk. Valley Visitor Center Theater (YC) \$ (Final show November 3)</p> <p>7:30pm <b>Ranger Evening Program</b> - 1hr. Check local listings for venue and topic. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>7:30pm <b>Halloween Cemetery Tour</b> (Oct 27 only) 1 1/2 hr. walking tour of the Yosemite Cemetery, meet in front of the Valley Visitor Center with a flashlight (DNC) ♿</p>	<p>5:30pm <b>Vintage Music of Yosemite</b> 4 hrs. Live music and historical programs with pianist/singer Tom Bopp, programs are available by request, usually given at 8:30pm, drop by the piano early in the evening &amp; ask Tom for details, Wawona Hotel Lounge (DNC) ♿</p>



## Access for People with Disabilities:

Accessible parking, lodging, tours, and activities are available throughout the park.

For a complete list of accessible services, recreational opportunities, and exhibits, pick up an updated Yosemite Accessibility Guide which is available at park entrance stations, visitor centers, and online at [www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/accessibility.htm](http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/accessibility.htm), or call a park Accessibility Coordinator at 209/379-1035 for more information.



Accessible parking spaces are available just west of the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center. To reach these, enter the Valley on Southside Drive. Turn left on Sentinel Drive. Turn left on Northside Drive, and follow the blue and white signs.

Sign Language interpreting is available upon request. Contact Deaf Services at 209/379-5250 (v/txt) Two weeks advance notice is requested. Assistive Listening Devices are available upon advance request. Inquire at a visitor center.



Audio tours are available for the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center and the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias. Refer to the Accessibility Guide, or contact an Accessibility Coordinator for more information.

**NPS** National Park Service

**DNC** DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite, Inc.

**TAAG** The Ansel Adams Gallery

**YC** Yosemite Conservancy

**\$** Programs offered for a fee

# Yosemite Valley



Half Dome, NPS Photo

Even when it's cold outside, Yosemite Valley offers great activities and programs for the whole family.

## Valley Visitor Center and Bookstore

Visitor center and bookstore hours are 9 am to 5 pm, just west of the main post office (shuttle stops #5 and #9). The center offers information, maps, and books in the attached bookstore. Explore the exhibit hall and learn how Yosemite's spectacular landscape was formed, how people have interacted with it through the centuries, how wildlife adapts and survives, and how your national park continues to evolve.

### FILM: SPIRIT OF YOSEMITE

Spirit of Yosemite Hours: shown every 30 minutes, Monday through Saturday between 9:30 am and 4:30 pm, Sunday between noon and 4:30 pm in the Valley Visitor Center Theater.

## Wilderness Permits

The Valley Wilderness Center is located in Yosemite Village adjacent to the post office. Hours are 8am to 5pm. Visit the wilderness center to learn about wilderness safety, plan trips, obtain permits and maps, and rent canisters. The wilderness center will close for the season on October 21st. After October 21st, wilderness permits and bear canisters can be obtained at the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center daily from 9am to 5pm.

## Yosemite Museum

Located in Yosemite Village next to the Valley Visitor Center. Open 9am to 5pm, may close for lunch.

### INDIAN CULTURAL EXHIBIT

Interprets the cultural history of Yosemite's Miwok and Paiute people from 1850 to the present.

### YOSEMITE MUSEUM STORE

Open daily from 9 am to 5 pm (may close for lunch). The store offers books and traditional American Indian arts, crafts, jewelry, and books.

### YOSEMITE VIEWED: 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY LANDSCAPE PAINTINGS:

This exhibit features a selection of landscapes from the Yosemite Museum collection ranging from Thomas Ayres' 1855 drawing of the view from Inspiration Point to a late 20th century interpretation of the same scene by Jane Culp.

Works by Albert Bierstadt, Thomas Moran, Chris Jorgensen, Chiura Obata, and others will be included. The Cosmopolitan Register, which includes signatures of prominent visiting artists, and the Cosmopolitan interactive, will be part of the display. Yosemite Museum Gallery, 10am-12pm, 1pm-4pm daily through October 31.

## The Ansel Adams Gallery

The gallery is located in Yosemite Village next to the Valley Visitor Center and is open daily. Hours are 9am to 5pm. The gallery offers the work of Ansel Adams, contemporary photographers, and other fine artists. See page 5 for photo walk and other event times. For more information, call 209/372-4413, or visit [www.anseladams.com](http://www.anseladams.com).

New Exhibit: Sally Owens and Tom Killion "The High Sierra: Two Views". September 29th – November 17th (Reception Saturday, October 20th 2-4p.m.).

East and West: Photographs by Richard Lohmann and Tom Mallonee November 20th – January 6th, 2013 (Reception Nov. 24th from 2-4)



Coyote. All issue illustrations by Tom Whitworth

## Yosemite Art Center

Yosemite Conservancy invites you to participate in one of our art workshops held Tuesday through Saturday through Nov. 10. There is a requested \$10 donation for each session; supplies can be purchased at registration. Located in Yosemite Village next to the Village Store. Open daily 9am-4:30pm (closed for lunch). To register in advance call 209/372-1442. Closes for the season Dec 1st.

Special Exhibit: "From Our Point of View". Artwork by residents and employees of Yosemite National Park will be shown Nov. 5-30.

Oct. 9 - 13 Henrietta Sparkman Monotype Expressions Printmaking

Oct. 16-20 John Hewitt Plein Air Watercolor

Oct. 23-27 Jennifer Starr Block, Box and Book Block printing

Oct. 30-Nov. 3 Pam Pederson Pen and Ink Sketching with Watercolor

Nov. 6-10 Shauna Potocky Creating Your Own Journal

## Yosemite Outdoor Adventures

Yosemite Conservancy is passionate about sharing the wonders of Yosemite. Join one of our year-round programs and explore everything Yosemite has to offer.

Oct. 19-22 Autumn Light Photography *Dave Wyman and Ken Rockwell*

Nov. 1-4 Focusing on Nature *Keith Walklet and Mike Osborne*

Dec. 1 The Day of the Woodpecker *Pete Devine*

Find detailed information about these programs and more at [www.yosemiteconservancy.org/adventures](http://www.yosemiteconservancy.org/adventures). Camping and park entry is included, additional lodging options available. Private and custom tours can also be arranged for individuals, families and groups. Contact us at [adventures@yosemiteconservancy.org](mailto:adventures@yosemiteconservancy.org) or call 209/379-2317, ext. 10.

### POST OFFICE

Yosemite Village  
**Main Office**  
 Monday-Friday: 8:30am to 5pm  
 Saturday: 10am to noon  
 Yosemite Lodge  
**Post Office**  
 Monday-Friday: 12:30pm to 2:45pm  
 El Portal  
**Post Office**  
 Monday-Friday: 8:30am to 5pm  
 closed for lunch from 12:30 to 1:30  
 Wawona Post Office  
 Monday-Friday: 9am to 5pm  
 Saturday: 9am to noon

### BOOKS, GIFTS, & APPAREL

Yosemite Village  
**The Ansel Adams Gallery**  
 9am to 5pm  
**Yosemite Bookstore**  
**Inside Yosemite Visitor Center**  
 9am to 5pm  
**Yosemite Museum Store**  
 9am to 5pm, may close for lunch  
**Village Store**  
 8am to 8pm  
**Habitat Yosemite**  
 11am to 4pm Thurs.-Sun. only  
**Sport Shop**  
 10am to 4pm  
 The Ahwahnee  
**The Ahwahnee Gift Shop**  
 8am to 8pm  
**The Ahwahnee Sweet Shop**  
 7am to 10pm  
 Yosemite Lodge  
**Gift/Grocery**  
 8am to 7pm  
**Nature Shop**  
 11am to 6pm  
 Curry Village  
**Mountain Shop**  
 9am to 5pm  
**Curry Village Gift/Grocery**  
 9am-7pm  
 Wawona Area  
**Wawona Store and Pioneer Gift Shop**  
 8am to 6pm  
**Big Trees Gift Shop**  
 9am to 5pm, closes for the season Nov. 5, weather permitting.

### GOLF

Wawona Hotel Golf Course  
 9am to 5pm, weather and conditions permitting. Nine-hole, par-35 course, closes for the season Oct. 30

### WINTER SPORTS

Badger Pass Ski Area and Sport Shop  
 Scheduled to open December 14, weather and conditions permitting.

Hours listed are core hours for facilities and may be extended during periods of peak visitation. Check local postings for changes to hours of operation.

#### FOOD & BEVERAGE

##### Yosemite Village

**Degnan's Delicatessen**, 7am to 5pm  
**Village Grill**, 11am to 5pm, *closes for season on Oct 14.*

##### The Ahwahnee

**Dining Room**  
Breakfast: 7am to 10:00am  
Lunch: 11:30am to 2pm  
Dinner 5:30pm - 8:30pm Sunday through Thursday and 5:30pm - 9pm Friday and Saturday  
Sunday Brunch: 7am to 2pm  
*Appropriate attire required for dinner. Reservations recommended for all meals, strongly recommended for dinner and Sunday Brunch. 209/372-1489.*  
**The Ahwahnee Bar** 11:30am to 11pm  
**The Coffee Bar** 7am to 10:30am

##### Yosemite Lodge

**Food Court**  
Breakfast: 6:30am to 11am  
Lunch: 11:30am to 2pm  
Dinner: Sunday - Thursday 5pm - 8pm and Friday and Saturday 5pm-8:30pm (Grab and Go only 8-8:30pm)  
**Mountain Room Lounge**  
4:30pm to 11pm (Mon.-Fri.)  
Noon - 11pm (Sat.-Sun.)  
**Mountain Room Restaurant**  
Sunday - Thursday 5pm to 8pm and Friday and Saturday 5pm to 8:30pm  
*Reservations taken for 8 or more. 209/372-1281*

##### Curry Village

**Pizza Deck**  
5pm-9pm *After Oct. 28, weekends and holidays only. Closes for the season on Nov. 24.*  
**Curry Village Bar**  
5pm - 10pm, *closes for the season Oct.20th*

##### Pavilion Buffet

Breakfast: 7am - 10am daily, *closes for the season October 21*  
Dinner: 5:30pm and 8pm, *closes for the season October 21*

##### Wawona

*The Wawona Hotel and Dining Room are closed from November 26-December 14*  
**Wawona Hotel Dining Room**  
Breakfast: 7:30am to 10am  
Lunch: 11:30am to 1:30pm  
Dinner: 5:30pm to 8:30pm, Sunday-Thursday, 5pm-9pm Friday-Saturday  
*Reservations taken for 6 or more, 209/375-1425*  
Lounge Service: 5pm-9:30pm

#### GROCERIES

##### Yosemite Lodge

**Gift/Grocery**  
8am to 7pm

##### Yosemite Village

**Village Store**  
8am to 8pm

##### Curry Village

**Gift/Grocery**  
9am to 7pm

##### Wawona Store & Pioneer Gift Shop

8am to 6pm

##### Crane Flat

**Store** 10am-4pm

#### GAS STATIONS

##### Gas outside Yosemite Valley

**El Portal**  
Diesel available  
Pay 24 hours with credit or debit card

##### Wawona Gas Station

9am to 6pm. Diesel & propane.  
Pay 24 hours with credit or debit card.

##### Crane Flat

10am-4pm. Diesel available. Pay 24 hours with credit or debit card

##### Tuolumne Meadows

Pay 24 hours with credit or debit card until road closes.

#### SHOWERS AND LAUNDRY

##### Curry Village Showers

Open 24 hours

##### Housekeeping Camp Laundromat

8am to 10pm

# Visitor Services

## Beyond Yosemite Valley

## Wawona

### Wawona Visitor Center at Hill's Studio

Bookstore (only) open through November 4th: 9-5 daily, may close for lunch; November 9th - 25th: open 9-5, Fri-Sun, may close for lunch; closed after November 25th.

### Pioneer Yosemite History Center

Go back to a time of horse-drawn wagons, a covered bridge, and log cabins. A visit to the Pioneer Yosemite History Center explores Yosemite's history and explains how Yosemite was the inspiration for national parks across America and around the world. The center is open throughout the year.

### Evening Programs

Join pianist/singer Tom Bopp in the Wawona Hotel lobby from 5:30 pm to 9:30 pm, Tuesday through Saturday, as he performs songs and tells stories from Yosemite's past.

### Wilderness Permits

Wilderness permits can be obtained by self registration on the front porch of Hill's Studio and bear canisters are available for rent at the Wawona Store.

### Mariposa Grove

Located near Yosemite's South Entrance, the Mariposa Grove is the park's largest stand of giant sequoias, with about 500 trees. A few of these giants are visible in the parking area. Information about access for disabled people is available at the tram boarding area. The road to the Grove typically closes in November or December. Visitors can walk, ski, or snowshoe when the road is closed to vehicles.

#### GETTING TO MARIPOSA GROVE

Allow 1½ hours driving time to reach the grove from the Valley. Cars are prohibited beyond the grove parking lot. Trailers are prohibited on the Mariposa Grove Road. Private vehicles longer than 25 feet are not permitted.

#### MARIPOSA GROVE & WAWONA SHUTTLE

A free shuttle stops at the Wawona Store, South Entrance, and Mariposa Grove. Visitors may park at the Wawona Store to board the bus. Operates 9am - 6pm weekends only. Closes October 30th or after the first snowfall.

#### BIG TREES TRAM TOUR

A 1¼-hr. tour of the grove is available if weather permits through Oct. 30 or after the first snow. The audio tour is available in five languages and for the visually impaired. Call 209/375-1621.

#### WALKING THROUGH THE GROVE

Trails into the grove extend uphill from the trailhead at the far end of the parking area. Interpretive signs between the trailhead and the California Tree provide a self-guiding tour. Written translations are available at the trailhead in Spanish, German, French, and Japanese. When snow covers the ground, access is limited to foot, snowshoe, or ski. Dogs and bikes are not permitted anywhere in the Mariposa Grove.

## Big Oak Flat

### Big Oak Flat Information Station

Open 8am to 5pm. The information station offers general park information, wilderness permits, bear canister rentals, books and maps. From October 15th through November 4th, the Bookstore only will be open daily from 9am to 5pm. From November 9th through November 25th, the Bookstore will be open Friday through Sunday from 9am to 5pm. Starting October 15th, the Tioga Road from Crane Flat to Tioga Pass, including all parking lots,

is closed to any overnight parking and wilderness permits can be obtained by self registration on the front porch of the information station.

### Merced Grove

Yosemite's quietest stand of sequoias is the Merced Grove, a group of about 20 trees accessible only on foot. It's a four-mile round-trip hike, ski, or snowshoe (about three hours) into the grove from Big Oak Flat Road (Highway 120 West). Located 3½ miles north of Crane Flat and 4½ miles south of the Big Oak Flat Entrance, the trailhead is marked by a road sign and post labeled B-10.

### Tuolumne Grove

This cluster of about 25 sequoias is near Crane Flat at the intersection of Big Oak Flat and Tioga Roads. The former route of the Big Oak Flat Road leads downhill from Crane Flat into the grove. Now closed to cars, this path drops 500 feet (150 meters) in one mile. The trip (you can walk, ski, or snowshoe) is moderately strenuous uphill. Within the Tuolumne Grove there is an easy, half-mile, self-guiding nature trail.

## Tuolumne Meadows

### Wilderness Permits

The Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center is located just south of Tioga Road, along the road to the Tuolumne Meadows Lodge, at shuttle stop #3. Hours are 8am to 5pm. The wilderness center will close for the season on October 14th. Starting October 15th, the Tioga Road from Crane Flat to Tioga Pass, including all parking lots, is closed to any overnight parking and wilderness permits can be obtained by self registration at the Tuolumne Meadows Ranger Station.

#### GENERAL SERVICES

##### Village Garage

8am to 5pm Towing 24 hours. Propane available until 4:30pm. 209/372-8320

##### Dental Services

Adjacent to Yosemite Medical Clinic. For hours, call 209/372-4200. If no answer, call 209/372-4637

##### Yosemite Medical Clinic

The clinic is open Monday through Friday from 9:00am and 5:00pm and is closed on Saturday and Sunday. 24 hour emergency ambulance service continues to be available. Emergency care: 24 hours daily. 209/372-4637

#### RELIGIOUS SERVICES

**YOSEMITE COMMUNITY CHURCH** (Yosemite Chapel) Pastor Brent Moore Resident Minister, 209-372-4831

www.yosemitevalleychapel.org, Wedding information on our website.

##### SUNDAY SERVICES

9:15 AM (Sunday School available).  
6:30 P.M. Sunday Evening Service/Bible Study

##### TUESDAY BIBLE STUDIES

Women's Bible 7:00 PM call chapel for location  
Men's Bible 7:00 PM call chapel for location

##### THURSDAY MIDWEEK SERVICE

Thursday Evening Service 7:00 PM

Various Bible Studies during the week call for times and locations.

##### ROMAN CATHOLIC

**SUNDAY MASS CELEBRATIONS:**  
Sunday, 10:00 am Visitor Center Theater, Shuttle Stop # 5 or 9

**DAILY MASS CELEBRATIONS:** Call for times, 209-372-4729

#### CHURCH OF CHRIST (NONDENOMINATIONAL)

El Portal Chapel/Worship: Sunday 11 am  
Foresta Road, at top of Chapel Lane  
Information: 209/379-2100

#### SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS**  
7:30 pm Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday  
DNC General Office Building  
(Employee Training Center) Yosemite Village

##### AL-ANON MEETINGS

Saturday mornings at 8 am in the Loft (above Degnan's).

##### LIONS CLUB

Meets the first and third Thursdays of each month at noon, The Ahwahnee. Call 209/372-4475.

##### ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

Meets Thursdays for lunch at noon in The Ahwahnee Mural Room. Visiting Rotarian families and guests welcome. For meeting reservations or information, call 209/372-0282.

# Protecting yourself...



Autumn leaves, NPS Photo

## Keep yourself safe while exploring your park.

There are many ways to experience the wildness of Yosemite. While the forces of nature can create unexpected hazardous conditions, with a little common sense and some pre-planning, you can minimize the risks associated with many activities.

### Around Ice and Water

•Stay off of frozen lakes, rivers and streams and away from swiftly-moving water. Keep children from wandering on or near these hazards.

### Avoid Hypothermia

Sierra winters are comparatively mild, but temperatures can drop into dangerous territory with little warning. Winter sports require a high degree of preparation and training. Be prepared to shelter overnight even when out just for the day. Know how to use your gear and carry basic repair materials.

Avoid the combination of wetness, wind, and cold. Know symptoms of hypothermia. Carry emergency fire-starting materials and food. Avoid dehydration; carry and drink plenty of water and carry emergency high-energy food.

### Water Quality

To protect yourself from disease, treat any surface water before drinking. Treatment methods include boiling for five minutes, use of a Giardia-rated water filter, or iodine-based purifier. To prevent the spread of Giardia and other water-borne disease organisms, use restroom facilities where available, and always wash hands afterwards with soap and water. In natural areas where facilities are not available, wash, camp, and bury human waste (6 inches deep) at least 100 feet away from any water source or trail.

### Traffic Safety

Roads leading to the park are two-lane, narrow, and winding. When traveling on park roads you can protect yourself, other visitors, and park wildlife by observing the following simple rules: Please obey posted speed limits. Yosemite's roads are used by both visitors and park wildlife. Use turnouts to pull completely out of the road, to take photos, consult the park map, or simply enjoy the park's scenery and wildlife.

### Effects of Altitude

Altitude sickness may develop in otherwise healthy and fit people who are exposed to rapid increases in altitude. It can develop at altitudes as low as 8,000 feet (Yosemite Valley's elevation is 4,000 feet). Should altitude sickness develop, descend to a lower elevation. The Yosemite Medical Clinic in Yosemite Valley is experienced in diagnosing and treating this sickness.

### Hiking, Backpacking, Backcountry Snow Travel, and Rock Climbing

There are no scheduled winter patrols, so be prepared. Be honest about your abilities and plan with the least experienced member of your group in mind. Tell someone where you are going and when you are due back.

•Be prepared for icy travel before conditions arise. Bring crampons, ice axe, climbing skins, and other traction devices.

•Carry and know how to use a map and compass.

•Check weather forecasts. Snow can occur with little warning, and can make route finding very difficult.

•Avoid dehydration or heat exhaustion; carry and drink plenty of water, and bring high-energy food.

•Be prepared to set up emergency shelter even when out just for the day.

•Know how to use your gear and carry basic repair materials.

### Wilderness Permit Details

Free wilderness permits are required for all overnight trips into the Yosemite Wilderness. Please see Wilderness Permit Information on pages 6 and 7 of this Guide for more information about obtaining Wilderness Permits.

For summer trips, reservations are taken from 24 weeks to two days in advance of the start of your trip. A processing fee of \$5 per permit plus \$5 per person is charged to each confirmed reservation. Check the park's website for trailhead availability and call 209/372-0740 (starting on Jan. 5).

Information about Half Dome permits is available on our website at [www.nps.gov/yose](http://www.nps.gov/yose).

### More Information

- [www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/backpacking.htm](http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/backpacking.htm)
- Leave No Trace [www.lnt.org](http://www.lnt.org)
- Friends of Yosemite Search and Rescue [www.friendofyosar.org](http://www.friendofyosar.org)

### HANTAVIRUS INFORMATION

Mice are an important part of the ecosystem, but can carry diseases that are harmful to humans.

Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome (HPS) is a rare but serious disease spread in the droppings and saliva of infected rodents. Not all rodents are infected with hantavirus, but infected rodents have been found throughout the US. You can be in close proximity to park rodents, so it is important you take steps to protect yourself from HPS.

Tell housekeeping staff if you see evidence of mice in your tent or cabin and do not clean up the area yourself. Keep doors shut and do not eat or bring food into your cabin that is not in a sealed container. Do not pitch tents near rodent burrows or droppings. HPS begins with aches, fever, and chills 1- 8 weeks after exposure, progressing to cough and difficulty breathing. Seek medical attention immediately if you experience these symptoms.

For more information, visit:

- [www.cdc.gov/hantavirus](http://www.cdc.gov/hantavirus)
- [go.nps.gov/hanta](http://go.nps.gov/hanta)

# ...and Yosemite



## Keeping Bears Wild

Keep Yosemite's Black Bears Wild and Alive, while protecting yourself and your property.

### Store Your Food Properly.

4,000 to 20,000 calories worth of grasses, berries, acorns, and grubs—that's the typical daily diet of most bears. It's a lot easier for a bear to eat the thousands of calories of food in an ice chest than it is to spend all day nibbling at grasses. Their incredible sense of smell allows them to detect things we can't, which helps them find food—a black bear can smell a dead deer three miles away. To top it off, bears have excellent vision and can see in color, so they recognize ice chests, grocery bags, and other food containers as potential food sources.

### If you see a bear, scare it away or keep your distance.

You may not see a bear during your visit because they naturally avoid people. However, if you see one in a developed area (like a campground or parking lot), act immediately to scare it away: Make noise and yell as loud as possible. If there is more than one person, stand together to present a more intimidating figure, but do not surround the bear. If you see a bear anywhere else, consider yourself lucky—but keep your distance (at least 50 yards, or about the distance made by four shuttle buses parked end to end). If you get too close, you will

be helping the bear become used to being around people. Bears that become comfortable around humans lose their natural fear of us and may become too aggressive. When that happens, they sometimes have to be killed.

### Drive the speed limit.

The most common human-related cause of death for a black bear in Yosemite is being hit by a car. Slow down! Driving too fast is almost always the cause of these accidental deaths.

Please report bear sightings by calling 209/372-0322.

## Yosemite Guardians

Visitors to Yosemite National Park are the park's most important guardians. With nearly 4 million people watching over its special plants, animals, historic, and archeological sites, imagine how well-protected these park resources could be!

During your visit to Yosemite be aware that there are people who either unknowingly or intentionally harm park resources. Please contact a park official if you see any of the following illegal acts:

- Feeding or approaching wildlife
- Collecting plants
- Hunting animals
- Collecting reptiles and butterflies
- Picking up archeological items, such as arrowheads
- Using metal detectors
- Driving vehicles into meadows
- Biking off of paved roads
- Camping outside of designated campgrounds
- Possession of weapons inside federal facilities

If you see activities that could harm people or park resources, jot down any descriptions or a vehicle license plate number and call the park dispatch office at 209/379-1992.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

To find out more about Yosemite National Park regulations visit [www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/yoursafety.htm](http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/yoursafety.htm) and find a copy of the Superintendent's Compendium. This document is a compilation of designations, closures, permit requirements, and other restrictions made by the superintendent, in addition to what is contained in Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations (Chapter 1, Parts 1 through 7 and 34), and other applicable federal statutes and regulations.

## How to Store Food

"Food" includes any item with a scent, regardless of packaging. This may include items that you do not consider food, such as canned goods, bottles, drinks, soap, cosmetics, toiletries, trash, ice chests (even when empty), and unwashed items used for preparing or eating meals.

LOCATION	FOOD STORAGE	WHY?
<b>Your Vehicle</b>	You may store food in your car (with windows closed) only during daylight hours. Do not store food in your car after dark: use a food locker. Remember to clear your car of food wrappers, baby wipes, and crumbs in baby seats.	Bears can smell food, even if it's sealed in the trunk or glove compartment, and they recognize boxes and bags as potential food sources. They can easily and quickly break into all kinds of vehicles!
<b>Your Campsite or Tent Cabin</b>	You must store all your food in food lockers—not in your tent or tent cabin. A food locker is available at each campsite and tent cabin. Food may be stored out of sight in hard-sided RVs with windows closed.	Bears may enter campsites when people are present, and some will even check food lockers to see if they're secured. Keep food lockers closed and latched at all times, even when you are in your campsite or tent cabin.
<b>Picnic Areas &amp; on the Trails</b>	Do not leave food unattended. Always keep food within arm's reach. Don't turn your back to your food.	Bears may investigate picnic areas or backpacks for food even when people are present, so be alert.
<b>Backpacking in the Wilderness</b>	Bear resistant food containers are required throughout the Yosemite Wilderness. Hanging food is prohibited in Yosemite.	In Yosemite and the southern Sierra, bear canisters are the only effective and proven method of preventing bears from getting human food.

## Yosemite Valley Day Hikes

TRAIL / DESTINATION	STARTING POINT	DISTANCE / TIME	DIFFICULTY / ELEVATION
Bridalveil Fall	Bridalveil Fall Parking Area	0.5 mile round-trip, 20 minutes	Easy
Lower Yosemite Fall	Lower Yosemite Fall Shuttle Stop #6	1.0 mile round-trip, 20 minutes	Easy
Upper Yosemite Fall Trail to Columbia Rock	Camp 4 Near Shuttle Stop #7	2 miles round-trip, 2-3 hours	Strenuous 1,000-foot gain
Top of Upper Yosemite Fall	Same as above	7.2 miles round-trip, 6-8 hours	Very Strenuous 2,700-foot gain
Mirror Lake (A seasonal lake) back of loop closed temporarily due to rockfall	Mirror Lake Shuttle Stop #17	2 miles round-trip, 1 hour	Easy
Vernal Fall Footbridge	Happy Isles Shuttle Stop #16	1.4 miles round-trip, 1-2 hours	Moderate, 400-foot gain
Top of Vernal Fall	Happy Isles Shuttle Stop #16	3 miles round-trip, 2-4 hours	Strenuous 1,000-foot gain
Top of Nevada Fall	same as above	5 miles round-trip, 5-6 hours	Strenuous 1,900-foot gain
Four Mile Trail to Glacier Point (Closed in winter)	Southside Drive	4.8 miles one-way, 3-4 hours one-way	Very Strenuous, 3,200-foot gain
Valley Floor Loop	Lower Yosemite Fall Shuttle Stop #6	13 miles full loop, 5-7 hours full loop	Moderate

# A Hundred Years of John Muir

By Pete Devine



Conservationist John Muir lived in Yosemite Valley for a few years, when he was in his 30's. Muir grew up in Scotland and Wisconsin, and had set off traveling to study the botany of the Amazon, when he contracted malaria in the American South. He sought somewhere with a modest climate where he could rest up and get healthy; he'd heard of Yosemite and the giant sequoias, so thought he'd come recuperate here for a year or so.

He came to California by ship from the east coast, via train across Panama, landed in San Francisco and walked up to Yosemite. His initial time in Yosemite was a couple weeks as tourist, visiting Yosemite Valley and Mariposa Grove, then he found ranch work in the lowest Sierra foothills for a year. His employer sent him back up to Yosemite with a herd of sheep for his first summer in the park. After a bit more ranch work he returned to Yosemite Valley and worked for hotelier James Hutchings for two years, running a sawmill, building more hotel units for Hutchings and starting to guide some tourists.

He and another Hutchings employee built and lived in a tiny cabin on the banks of Yosemite Creek, below the falls, near where Hutchings' apple trees

still grow. Muir next built himself a small shack suspended from the eaves of Hutchings sawmill. A trace of the ditch that brought Yosemite Creek water to turn a wheel that powered the saw blade can still be seen along the walkway to Yosemite Falls.

Muir also worked as a winter caretaker for a hotel near where the Four Mile Trail is. He lived in a third location, on Tenaya Creek where North Pines Campground is today. During these few years in Yosemite, Muir met Ralph Waldo Emerson and botanist Asa Gray, experienced one of Yosemite's big floods, engaged in a significant scientific argument with the state geologist, rode out a tremendous earthquake, identified the park's first known glaciers, and explored miles of Yosemite's backcountry.

He was great at keeping journals, with numerous sketches, of his natural history observations, explorations and discoveries. When he took park visitors on excursions, people were amazed to find such an intelligent, literate and passionate individual living in such an isolated place. Well-off Bay Area visitors referred their friends to him and he built useful contacts in academia, publishing, and a slowly emerging conservation movement. They urged him to write about his perceptions of the natural world, and to give public lectures about Sierra peaks, wildlife, flowers and

geologic history. His field notebooks were to prove very useful when he did end up publishing numerous articles and books about the beauty to be found in the mountains.

Muir eventually relocated to the San Francisco Bay Area, exploring there and writing articles. He made several trips to study glaciation in coastal Alaska. He met a young lady in the Bay Area, courted her and was married when he was 42 years old. He and Louie had two daughters and the family lived at his father-in-law's ranch where Muir made a good living growing fruit. Their house in Martinez has been preserved by the National Park Service and you can go visit John Muir's home today.

Muir's renown grew with his popular writings and his influential friends. Eventually he helped found and lead the Sierra Club to protect mountain lands for all of us. Muir's work on behalf of wild public lands never stopped. He had an influence on the protection of Yosemite National Park, Muir Woods, Mt. Rainier, Grand Canyon, Crater Lake, New Hampshire's White Mountains, Sequoia NP, and Petrified Forest. Muir got to know three US Presidents and took one of them, Teddy Roosevelt on a four-day camping trip in Yosemite to enjoy the outdoors and discuss conservation. Muir was awarded 4 honorary degrees. There are dozens of public places (libraries, schools, etc.) named for him. The California Historical Society voted him the most important Californian. He's been on two postage stamps and his image was placed on the US currency on the 2005 California quarter.

One of the most important things to know about John Muir is that you share some similarities with him. Something called you both to come see Yosemite National Park. Like Muir, you're probably a little overwhelmed by the grand landscape. Both of you would appreciate the silence of the autumn landscape or would enjoy watching the snow fall in the forests and on the cliffs. You're probably both glad that Americans have protected Yosemite for all time and that everyone is invited to enjoy this treasure.

Muir would no doubt be pleased that you've come to see Yosemite for yourself.

## John Muir

By Lucas Lynch

To log for the timber was their horrible ploy,  
to break, to take and eventually destroy  
But a man stood in their path, he stood in their way,  
he would not give up, not even a day.

They fought and fought but defeat they could not,  
this man would not budge, nor would he be bought.  
Because this land of such natural splendor and beauty,  
was in need of protection and he felt it his duty.

He pleaded and pleaded and wrote many a letter,  
to the people who could change things for the better.  
He brought people with vision and power to see,  
what the wonderful peaceful place could be.

One of the men to which he pleaded,  
stood before congress and could not be defeated.  
On this great country this man left his mark,  
when Yosemite became a national park.

*Lucas Lynch is a 10th grader from Mariposa, California. The assignment in his creative writing class was to "write about something you care about."*

# Supporting Your Park

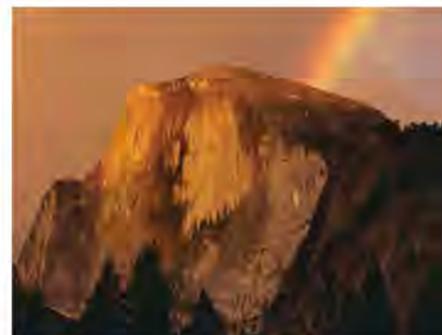
Providing for Yosemite's Future

## Enhance the Visitor Experience

It takes a legion of people working together to protect this special park for you and future generations of visitors. You too can extend your connection to Yosemite well after you return home by getting involved with the organizations that partner to preserve Yosemite.

**This publication was made possible by the Yosemite Park Partners listed on this page.**

Read more below or visit [www.yosemitepartners.org](http://www.yosemitepartners.org) to learn more about helping these organizations provide for the future of Yosemite National Park.



### The Ansel Adams Gallery

The Ansel Adams Gallery, owned by the family of photographer Ansel Adams since 1902, is a center that celebrates the arts and the natural grandeur of our environment. It cultivates an aesthetic appreciation and concern for our world by offering visitors a unique variety of literature and art, as well as programs that inspire creativity. Visit online at: [www.anseladamsgallery.com](http://www.anseladamsgallery.com).



### Contact Us

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PO Box 577  
9039 Village Drive  
Yosemite, CA 95389  
209/372-0200  
<http://www.nps.gov/yose/contacts.htm>

**The Ansel Adams Gallery**  
PO Box 455  
Yosemite, CA 95389  
209/372-4413  
209/372-4714 fax  
[www.anseladams.com](http://www.anseladams.com)

**DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite**  
PO Box 578  
Yosemite, CA 95389  
801/559-5000  
[www.yosemitepark.com](http://www.yosemitepark.com)

**Yosemite Conservancy**  
101 Montgomery Street, Suite 1700  
San Francisco, CA 94104  
800/469-7275  
415/434-0745 fax  
[www.yosemiteconservancy.org](http://www.yosemiteconservancy.org)

**NatureBridge**  
PO Box 487  
Yosemite, CA 95389  
209/379-9511  
209/379-9510 fax  
[www.yni.org](http://www.yni.org)

### DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite

DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite (DNC) operates hotels, restaurants, sightseeing tours, recreational activities, interpretive programs, stores, shuttles and service stations in the park under contract with the U.S. Department of the Interior. DNC encourages its employees to develop a strong relationship with the park during their tenure.

For more information and employment opportunities with DNC at Yosemite, visit online at: [www.YosemitePark.com](http://www.YosemitePark.com)



### NatureBridge

NatureBridge provides residential field science programs for youth in the world's most spectacular classroom - Yosemite National Park. Through active student engagement, our faculty teaches science, history, and the arts and gives these subjects context through personal experience. A NatureBridge learning adventure strives to foster a life-long connection to the natural world and responsible actions to sustain it. Find out more about our year-round programs for schools and summer programs for individual teens at [www.naturebridge.org/yosemite](http://www.naturebridge.org/yosemite)



### Yosemite Conservancy

Yosemite Conservancy is the only philanthropic organization that is dedicated exclusively to the protection and preservation of Yosemite National Park and enhancement of the visitor experience. In recent years we have provided over \$70 million in grants to Yosemite from the generous support from donors, volunteers and foundations. The Conservancy works to restore trails, protect wildlife through scientific research and habitat restoration, and offers outdoor programs that provide visitors with unique ways to connect with the park. It has funded projects in areas including trail and habitat restoration, wildlife protection, education, volunteering, and the production of award-winning books and DVDs. Learn more at [www.yosemiteconservancy.org](http://www.yosemiteconservancy.org)



*Providing For Yosemite's Future*

## Park Planning and Updates

### Providing Access and Protecting Resources: The Draft Tuolumne and Merced River Plans

Yosemite National Park is putting the final touches on river plans that will guide long-term resource protection, visitor use and facilities management in the Merced and Tuolumne Wild and Scenic River corridors. Visit Yosemite's planning webpage to find out more about the plans, proposed release dates, and opportunities for public input.

- <http://www.nps.gov/yose/parkmgmt/planning.htm>
- <http://www.nps.gov/yose/parkmgmt/trp.htm>

### Monthly Public Open House

Join park and partner staff to learn about projects and plans at a free monthly public Open House! Open Houses will be held on October 31 and November 28, from 1-4pm in the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center Auditorium.

*Park entrance fees will be waived for those attending the Open Houses!*

### Yosemite Renaissance XXVIII

Yosemite Renaissance is an all media, juried, fine art competition & exhibition on the theme of Yosemite and the environment of the Sierra Nevada. It is open to all living artists. \$4,000 in awards. Entry is by digital files. \$15 per entry (maximum of 8 entries per artist). The exhibit begins at the Yosemite Museum Gallery, February 22, 2013. For a prospectus and entry form visit: <http://www.yositemrenaissance.org>. Deadline: November 10, 2012. Yosemite Renaissance is a non-profit organization which encourages diverse interpretations of Yosemite in the visual arts.

Above right: Half Dome. Photo: Christine White Loberg